programmes, namely Intensified JRY in 120 backward districts in the country and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in more then 2000 backward and tribal blocks in the country are under implementation.

During the VIIIth Plan outlay for rural development has been raised from Rs.10,650 crores to Rs. 30,000 crores. Outlays for animal husbandry, dairy and fishries have been substantially raised. Horticulture, piggery, poultry, sheep rearing have been made permissible IRDP activities.

A large number of insurance schemes, pension and old age pension schemes like Group Insurance Scheme for Landless agricultural Labour run by the Ministry of Finance, Group Life Insurance Scheme for IRDP beneficiaries run by Ministry of Rural Development, Group Insurance Scheme for beedi workers run by the Ministry of Labour and several Old Age Pension Schemes are being run by the State Governments for the benefit of rural poor including landless labourers. It is hoped that these measures will help to a large extent in arresting the migration of rural labourers.

The Finance Minister in his budget speech has announced a social assistance package for the poor and the needy which includes a national minimum old age pension of Rs. 75/- p.m., lump sum survivor benefit of Rs.5000/- to poor household on the death of the primary bread winner and sustenance for pre-natal and post natal care to women belonging to poor household for the first two births. This will be complemented by a new Group Life Insurance Scheme which will be implemented by Panchayats in rural areas and provide a life cover of Rs. 5000/- and the premium will be shared by the Central Government, respective State Government and the beneficiary in the ratio of 25:25:50.

Impact of closure of Industries on workers

2080. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court about 30 pollution prone industries/factories will be closed down in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, how many workers will be rendered jobless or retrenched due to closure of the industries/factories; and

(c) what is being contemplated by Government for the retrenched workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Negligence of NOIDA based ESI Hospital doctors

2081. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enquired into the case of negligence of NOIDA based ESI hospital doctors, who had left a piece of sponge in the stomach of a lady patient, which was got removed by her in a private nursing home later on;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the negligent doctors and whether any compensation has been paid to the patient;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?